

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 /018 W

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O P 201130Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO CTF SEVEN SEVEN/CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT FIVE IMMEDIATE

INFO USS ORISKANY PRIORITY

USS WICHITA PRIORITY

USS BUCHANAN PRIORITY

USS R.E. PEARY PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 4852

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8625

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, KE

SUBJECT: TASK FORCE MOMBASA VISIT

REF: CTF SEVEN SEVEN 191054Z DEC 73

1. YOUR OFFER OF MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION BY OFFICERS AND MEN IN VARIOUS PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE PROGRAMS GREATLY APPRECIATED, BUT I MUST STRESS DESIRABILITY OF MAINTAINING GENERALLY LOW PROFILE WHILE IN KENYA SO AS NOT TO JEOPARDIZE FUTURE ACCESS TO PORT OF MOMBASA BY US NAVY VESSELS. ALTHOUGH PRIVATELY PRO-WESTERN IN ORIENTATION, KENYAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY PURSUES POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT INsofar AS TWO SUPERPOWERS ARE CONCERNED. YOU SHOULD, THEREFORE, AVOID ANY LOCAL PUBLICITY OR OTHER ACTIONS DRAWING PUBLIC ATTENTION TO PORT CALL WHICH MIGHT EMBARRASS OUR FRIENDS WITHIN KENYAN GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDE AMMUNITION TO THOSE KENYANS WHO OPPOSE US NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN. OUR RECOMMENDATIONS RE SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED IN YOUR MESSAGE FOLLOW.

2. KENYAN OFFICIALS AND NAVY PERSONNEL MAY BE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT ORISKANY BUT VISITS BY GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD
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NOT REPEAT NO BE PLANNED.

3. CONTEMPLATED LUNCHEON FOR TEN LOCAL GUESTS AND TEN KENYAN NAVY OFFICERS ON DEC 24 EXCELLENT IDEA. HOWEVER, BELIEVE IT BEST NOT TO PLAN LUNCHEON FOR STUDENTS OR YOUTH GROUPS.

4. EMBASSY IS CONTACTING KENYAN NAVY LIAISON OFFICER RE POSSIBILITY OF ATHLETIC EVENTS MENTIONED POINT 1D AND 1E REFTEL.

5. RE POINT 1F, WHILE PRESENCE OF US NAVY BAND DURING LUNCHEON QUITE APPROPRIATE, CONCERTS IN TOWN WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH DESIRE FOR LOW PROFILE.

6. CONTACT WITH LOCAL MEDIA MUST BE AVOIDED FOR REASONS STATED PARA 1 ABOVE.

7. OUR CAUTIONARY ADVICE RE TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS WAS NOT INTENDED AS BAN ON USE OF CAMERAS FOR TOURISM PURPOSES. SPECIFICALLY, KENYAN REGULATIONS PROHIBIT PHOTOGRAPHING OF PRESIDENT, POLICE AND MILITARY PERSONNEL AND INSTALLATIONS. TO AVOID INCIDENTS, PHOTOGRAPHS OF KENYAN CITIZENS SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT.

8. RE POINT 5(C) OF REFTEL, KENYAN AUTHORITIES HAVE REQUESTED THAT THERE BE NO UNIFORMED PERSONNEL ASHORE WITH EXCEPTION OF ADMIRAL AND ONE ACCOMPANYING OFFICER DURING OFFICIAL CALLS.

9. KENYAN NAVY IS INVITING 50 OFFICERS TO RECEPTION AT 1830 HOURS ON DEC 24. DRESS WILL BE DARK SUITS, NO UNIFORMS. KENYANS HAVE SUGGESTED INVITATIONS BE EXTENDED TO 25 OFFICERS FROM ORISKANY, 10 FROM EACH DESTROYER AND 5 FROM USS WICHITA. LINDSTROM

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